

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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TAGS PFOR US TW

SUBJECT: GROC REVIEWS RELATIONS WITH THE US: 1974 IN
RETROSPECT AND FUTURE POLICY

1. SUMMARY: ON JULY 8 THE EXECUTIVE YUAN RELEASED CONTENTS
OF A LETTER TO THE CONTROL YUAN ON US/ROC RELATIONS IN 1974 WHICH
NOTED THAT POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, MILITARY, CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC,
AND TECHNOLOGICAL RELATIONS WITH THE US ALL HAD BEEN
STRENGTHENED, AND THAT US GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAD REPEATEDLY
EXPRESSED THE US INTENTION TO PRESERVE FRIENDLY RELATIONS
WITH THE ROC AND TO HONOR ITS TREATY COMMITMENT.

RELEASE COINCIDED WITH THE NEWS THAT THE SINO-JAPANESE AIR
LINK WOULD BE RESTORED AND MISSED SOME OF THE PRESS
COVERAGE IT MIGHT HAVE OTHERWISE RECEIVED. END SUMMARY.

2. IN ITS YEAR-END REVIEW OF 1974 THE CONTROL YUAN (CY)
REQUESTED THAT THE EXECUTIVE YUAN (EY) PROVIDE A STATEMENT ON
US/ROC RELATIONS DURING 1974. ON JULY 8, 1975 THE EY
RELEASED THE TEXT OF A LETTER SENT TO THE CY OUTLINING
RELATIONS IN 1974 AND STATING FUTURE POLICY TOWARD THE
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US. (THE STATEMENT WAS NOT CARRIED IN THE SEMI-OFFICIAL
CHUNG YANG JIH PAO OR THE LARGE CIRCULATION LIEN HO PAO,

ALTHOUGH IT WAS GIVEN WIDE COVERAGE IN MOST OTHER PAPERS.)

3. THE STATEMENT OBSERVED THAT WHILE US OFFICIALS HAD REITERATED COMMITMENTS TO TAIWAN, US CHINA POLICY UNDER PRESIDENTS NIXON AND FORD HAD BEEN AND CONTINUED TO BE TO MAKE CONTACTS WITH THE PRC WHILE AT THE SAME TIME MAINTAINING "FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH AND A DEFENSE COMMITMENT TO THE ROC."

4. NOTING THAT CONGRESS AND THE NEWS MEDIA HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE FORMULATION OF FOREIGN POLICY, THE LETTER REPORTED THAT THE GROG HAD STRENGTHENED ITS CONTACTS WITH CONGRESS AND THE MEDIA THROUGH ITS EMBASSY AND "OTHER AGENCIES" IN THE US. IN 1974 IT HAD EXTENDED INVITATIONS TO KEY CONGRESSMEN AND NEWSMEN TO VISIT THE ROC IN ORDER TO SOLICIT THEIR SUPPORT. A TOTAL OF 44 SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN, 21 CONGRESSIONAL STAFF MEMBERS AND "MANY" NEWSMEN CAME TO THE ROC FOR A VISIT DURING 1974 AND LATER SPOKE UP FAVORABLY FOR TAIWAN. BETWEEN JULY 1973 AND AUGUST 1974, WHEN PRESIDENT FORD TOOK OFFICE, 105 CONGRESSMEN AND 23 SENATORS ALSO ENDORSED SEVERAL RESOLUTIONS DEMANDING THAT THE USG REFRAIN FROM DOING ANYTHING DETRIMENTAL TO THE INTERESTS OF THE ROC GOVERNMENT.

5. THE LETTER ALSO TOOK NOTE OF WHAT IT CALLED A CHANGE IN THE ATTITUDE OF THE US PRESS: "MORE AND FAIRER REPORTS ON THE ROC HAVE BEGUN TO APPEAR." IT SAID THAT THE GROG IN RECENT YEARS HAS THROUGH VARIOUS "DIRECT AND INDIRECT" CHANNELS INTENSIFIED ITS INFORMATION SERVICE IN THE US IN ORDER TO IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING OF THE ROC.

6. CO-PRODUCTION OF F-5E'S, OPENING OF THE TRADE CENTER, REVISION AND EXTENSION OF AGREEMENTS ON US/ROC COOPERATION IN SCIENTIFIC FIELDS AND ON PRIVATE USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY WERE CITED AS EXAMPLES OF CONTINUING COOPERATION IN THE MILITARY, ECONOMIC TRADE, CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL FIELDS.

7. THE OPENING OF A CONSULATE GENERAL IN KANSAS CITY AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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THE "RE-ACTIVATION" OF ITS CONSULATE IN PORTLAND WERE OFFERED AS EXAMPLES OF GROG EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN ITS OPERATIONS IN THE US.

8. THE LETTER CONCLUDED WITH A BRIEF FORMULATION OF PRESENT EFFORTS: "THERE ARE SEVERAL MONTHS TO GO BEFORE PRESIDENT FORD VISITS THE PRC. THE ROC WILL MOBILIZE ALL ITS FORCES BY ALL MEANS AND THROUGH ALL CHANNELS DURING THIS PERIOD TO INTENSIFY ITS CONTACTS AND LIAISONS WITH US CONGRESSMEN AND THE AMERICAN PRESS SO AS TO

SOLICIT THEIR SYMPATHY WITH AND SUPPORT FOR THE ROC."

9. COMMENT: THE EY LETTER APPEARS TO BE A FAIR SUMMARY OF ROC EFFORTS TO BUILD A WEB OF RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE US IN ORDER TO WIN FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE OPINIONS. WE SEE NOTHING SIGNIFICANT IN THE FAILURE OF WO OF MAJOR DAILIES TO CARRY THIS REPORT SINCE IT COINCIDED WITH THE SECOND BIGGEST NEWS STORY OF THE YEAR TO DATE--THE AGREEMENT TO RESTORE THE AIR LINK WITH JAPAN.

10. COPY OF ARTICLE POUCHED DEPARTMENT WITH PRESS TRANSLATIONS.
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Message Attributes

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